

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 03109 121443Z
ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7806
INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 3109

DEPT PLS PASS EXIM

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN ECON BEXP SU
SUBJECT: EXIM POLICIES TOWARD SUDAN

1. IN LIGHT OF SUDAN'S ADOPTION OF IMF REFORM PROGRAM AND
APPEARANCE OF SUBSTANTIAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SUPPORT,
EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT EXIM REVIEW ITS LEADING AND GUARANTEE
POLICIES TO LIFT PRESENT LEADING "FREEZE."

2. ADCM DISCUSSED EXIM'S POLICIES TOWARD SUDAN WITH ACTING
GOVERNOR BANK OF SUDAN (BOS) ON JULY 6. ACTING GOVERNOR
MENTIONED THAT HE HOPED CREDITS FROM EXIM WOULD BE AVAIL-
ABLE NOW THAT SUDAN HAD TAKEN DIFFICULT STEP OF DEVALUATION
AND ADOPTED OTHER PARTS OF IMF REFORM PROGRAM WHICH SHOULD
IMPROVE PAYMENTS SITUATION. ADCM RECALLED THAT PRINCIPAL
EXIM DIFFICULTIES WITH SUDAN HAD CONCERNED RELATIVELY SMALL
AMOUNTS WHICH HAD ARISEN THROUGH FCIA GUARANTEE PROGRAM.
BECAUSE DOCUMENTATION OF THESE CREDITS DID NOT MENTION
FCIA OR EXIM INVOLVEMENT, TENDENCY OF BOS HAS BEEN TO
TREAT THEM WITH OTHER SUPPLIER CREDITS AND NOT GIVE
THEM HIGHER PRIORITY NORMALLY ACCORDED TO EXIM LOANS.
BY THE TIME THIS PROBLEM WAS FULLY IDENTIFIED SOME
MONTHS AGO, BOP SITUATION HAD BECOME SO SERIOUS THAT BOS
WAS UNABLE TO PAY EVEN THESE SMALL AMOUNTS. ACTING
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GOVERNOR REQUESTED UPDATED LIST OF ALL FCIA OBLIGATIONS
SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE FOR PAYMENT OF ANY
ARREARAGES AND SO THAT BOS COULD IDENTIFY ALL TRANS-
ACTIONS IN WHICH EXIM HAS INTEREST. ACTING DCM MENTIONED
THAT PAYMENT OF ALL ARREARAGES PROBABLY WOULD BE REQUIRED
BEFORE EXIM WOULD GRANT NEW CREDITS.

3. EMBOFFS HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS THAT ONLY DISCORDANT
NOTE AT RECENT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE MEETING OF SUDAN-U.S.
BUSINESS COUNCIL HELD IN WASHINGTON, JUNE 19-20 WAS EXIM
PRESENTATION. REPORTEDLY, SENIOR U.S. EXECUTIVES FELT
THAT EXIM HAS TAKEN EXTRAORDINARILY NARROW VIEW OF DEVELOP-
MENTS IN SUDAN AND UNNECESSARILY HAS DENIED AMERICAN FIRMS
OPPORTUNITIES TO COMPETE FOR VERY IMPORTANT SALES. WE
UNDERSTAND THAT COMMITTEE FROM U.S. SIDE OF COUNCIL HAS
BEEN FORMED TO CONSIDER EXIM POLICIES AND PLANS TO CALL ON
EXIM PRESIDENT MOORE SOON.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: (1) PLEASE RE-EXAMINE EXIM POLICIES
IN LIGHT OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND (2) PROVIDE LIST OF CIA
TRANSACTIONS AS REQUESTED IN PARA 2.
BERGUS

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